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AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

May 17, 2002

U.S. Department of Transportation
Docket Management System
400 7th Street SW, Plaza 401
Washington, DC 20591-0001

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
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Re: Exemption No. 6140C, Docket No. 27294

Ladies/Gentlemen:

In accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations, 14CFR § 11.61, the Air Transport Association of America (ATA), on behalf of its member airlines¹ petitions the Administrator for an extension of Exemption No. 6140C. This exemption is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2002.

Exemption No. 6140 provides relief, under certain conditions and limitations, from provisions of 14 CFR § 121.309(f)(2) to the extent necessary to locate the aft megaphone at door 4-left on Boeing 747 aircraft. Similarly situated operators may petition to be included under an amendment to this exemption.

As outlined in ATA's petition for exemption, the Boeing 747 (B-747) aircraft was certificated in accordance with 14 CFR §25 with the aft megaphone located at door 4-left, instead of door 5-left, the most rearward door on the B-747. The B-747 has been in worldwide airline operation for more than 30 years, and the positioning of the aft megaphone at door 4-left has proved to be an advantageous location in emergency evacuations. Repositioning the aft megaphone from its current position at door 4-left to the most aft position, door 5-left, would not improve safety but would require airlines to expend resources unnecessarily.

¹ Operator Members: Airborne Express, Alaska Airlines, Aloha Airlines, America West Airlines, American Airlines, American Trans Air, Atlas Air, Continental Airlines, Delta Air Lines, DHL Airways, Emery Forwarding, Evergreen International, Federal Express, Hawaiian Airlines, JetBlue Airways, Midwest Express Airlines, Northwest Airlines, Polar Air Cargo, Southwest Airlines, United Airlines, United Parcel Service, US Airways.

Associate Members: Aeromexico, Air Canada, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, and Mexicana.

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AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

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Good cause exists to complete action on this petition by August 31, 2002, (14CFR § 11.81). With regard to public interest and equivalent levels of safety, the conditions and circumstances, which warranted the grant of exemption continue to exist. Over seven years of operational experience under this exemption demonstrates that granting a renewal of Exemption 6140C would not adversely affect safety and would be in the public interest.

Furthermore, the renewal of this exemption is not a controversial issue. This petition does not seek to establish a precedent, but merely continue an accepted and established practice. Accordingly, ATA requests that publication in the *Federal Register* be waived as unnecessary (14 CFR §11.87).

A summary of this petition is attached as required by 14 CFR §11.81. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call me at (202) 626-4012.

Very truly yours,

AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA

By: 

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Attachment

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Docket Management System
Docket No. 27294
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Attachment

SUMMARY OF ATA PETITION

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Petitioner: | Air Transport Association of America (ATA) |
| Regulation Affected: | 14 CFR § 121.309(f)(2) |
| Description of Relief Sought: | Renew Exemption No. 6140C with no changes to the existing terms. Exemption 6140C allows operators to locate the aft megaphone at door 4-left on the Boeing 747 aircraft. |